

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patricia Lewis
#5/R
2/28/02

In re Reissue of: U.S. PATENT NO. 5, 941,551

Inventor: HARMAN, C. ERIC and WARREN, M. TIMOTHY

Issued: AUGUST 24, 1999

For: EZ HITCH

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examining the application for reissue of the above referenced patent, kindly amend the patent as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly amend Claim 1 as follows:

sub E. (Amended) An improved trailer hitching apparatus comprising:
a plurality of connected guide walls which converge rearwardly into a substantially hemispherical housing having a substantially circular opening into said housing where said guide walls converge;
means attached to said housing for mounting said apparatus to a towing vehicle;
a double-ring coupler device having two substantially annulus-shaped rings, formed so that one outer ring houses the other inner ring as follows: the outer convex surface of said inner ring has the same curvature shape as the inner concave surface of said outer ring, with said outer ring somewhat overlapping said inner ring to hold them together operationally, allowing said outer ring to rotate freely on any axis about said inner ring;
a shaft attached to said outer ring having means to attach said coupler device to a trailer tongue;

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